

County of Monterey

Schilling Government Center
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas, CA 93901



Meeting Agenda - Final

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

10:00 AM

Saffron Conference Room

Water Resources Agency Planning Committee

For information on The Ralph M. Brown Act: Open Meetings please click on the link below:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?division=2.&chapter=9.&part=1.&lawCode=GOV&title=5

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ken Ekelund, Chair

Deidre Sullivan, Vice Chair

Matt Simis

Mark Gonzalez

How to participate in this meeting: In-Person at the address listed above.

Via Zoom: Members of the public may participate in this meeting virtually via computer or smart device. To Join the Zoom Meeting, copy and paste the link into your browser: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/92329693521?pwd=vi52WPz8baA3EL2FbIp05wM0awv5fv.1>

Meeting ID: 923 2969 3521 Password: 901221

To Participate via phone, you can call the number below and enter the webinar ID number and password when prompted: Phone Number: (669) 219 2599 Meeting ID: 923 2969 3521 Password: 901221

Public Comments: The following options are available to any member of the public participating virtually or in person who wishes to make any comments to the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

Before the Meeting via Email: Written comments can be emailed by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Committee meeting, to WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov. Please indicate the Committee name, meeting date and agenda number in the subject. Comments received by the deadline will be distributed to the Committee and placed in the record.

During the Meeting via Oral Comments: When the Chair calls for public comment, attendees can queue to speak by raising their hand in person. On the Zoom application, click the "Raise Hand" button. On the phone, or press *9 on the phone. The Secretary to the Board Committee will call speaker names and unmute speaker mics. You will have 3 minutes to provide your comments.

Please note, the time limit for commenters who have already submitted something in writing may be shortened.

Individuals with disabilities who desire to request a reasonable accommodation or modification to observe or participate in the meeting may make such request by sending an email to WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov. The request should be made no later than noon on Tuesday prior to the Committee meeting in order to provide time for the Agency to address the request. The Chair and/or Secretary may set reasonable rules as needed to conduct the meeting in an orderly manner

Cómo participar en esta reunión: En persona: En la dirección indicada anteriormente.

De forma remota vía Zoom: Los miembros del público pueden participar en esta reunión de manera virtual a través de una computadora o dispositivo inteligente. Para unirse a la reunión de Zoom, copie y pegue el

siguiente enlace en su navegador: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/92329693521?pwd=vi52WPz8baA3EL2FbIp05wM0awv5fv.1>

ID de la reunión: 923 2969 3521 Contraseña: 901221

Para participar por teléfono: Puede llamar al número que aparece a continuación e ingresar el ID de la reunión y la contraseña cuando se le solicite:

Número de teléfono: (669) 219 2599 ID de la reunión: 923 2969 3521 Contraseña: 901221

Comentarios del público: Las siguientes opciones están disponibles para cualquier miembro del público que participe de forma virtual o en persona y desee hacer comentarios ante el Comité Asesor de Recursos Hídricos.

Antes de la reunión por correo electrónico: Los comentarios escritos pueden enviarse por correo electrónico hasta las 5:00 p. m. del martes previo a la reunión del Comité a: WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov

Por favor, indique el nombre del Comité, la fecha de la reunión y el número del punto de la agenda en el asunto del correo electrónico. Los comentarios recibidos antes de la fecha límite serán distribuidos al Comité y archivados como parte del registro oficial.

Durante la reunión mediante comentarios orales: Cuando el Presidente solicite comentarios del público, los asistentes pueden hacer fila para hablar levantando la mano en persona. En la aplicación de Zoom, haga clic en el botón "Levantar la mano". Por teléfono, presione *9.

El/la Secretario/a del Comité llamará a los oradores por nombre y activará sus micrófonos. Cada persona tendrá 3 minutos para presentar sus comentarios. Tenga en cuenta que el tiempo permitido para quienes ya hayan presentado comentarios por escrito puede ser reducido.

Las personas con discapacidades que deseen solicitar una adaptación o modificación razonable para observar o participar en la reunión pueden hacerlo enviando un correo electrónico a:

WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov

La solicitud debe realizarse a más tardar al mediodía del martes previo a la reunión del Comité, para permitir que la Agencia tenga tiempo de atender la solicitud.

El Presidente y/o el Secretario podrán establecer reglas razonables según sea necesario para conducir la reunión de manera ordenada.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comment

Committee Member Comments

Consent Calendar

1. Approve the Action Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on March 4, 2026.

Attachments: [Draft Meeting Minutes March 4, 2026](#)

Scheduled Items

2. Consider recommending that the Board of Directors authorize One Water Econ, LLP's Dam Materiality General Benefits Study. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Amy Woodrow)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
[Draft Dam Materiality General Benefits Study Scope](#)

3. Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize Flow West's Flood Reduction Benefits Study. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Jason Demers)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
[Draft Flow West Scope of Work](#)

Staff Reports

4. Overview of the Development of a Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum. (Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)

5. Overview of Coordination on Groundwater Monitoring and Remedial Measures Plan. (Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

6. San Antonio Spillway Replacement Update. (Staff Presenting: Elise Harden)

7. Receive an update on staff's participation in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Advisory Committee. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)

8. Update on the Request for Proposals process for the Strategic Plan Update Consultant. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)

Calendar

9. Set the next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.

Adjournment



County of Monterey

Item No.1

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-025

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/24/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Approve the Action Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on March 4, 2026.

County of Monterey

*Schilling Government Center
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas, CA 93901*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

10:00 AM

**Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Pl, Salinas, CA 93901**

Water Resources Agency Planning Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Ken Ekelund, Chair
Deidre Sullivan, Vice Chair
Matt Simis
Mark Gonzalez

How to participate in this meeting: In-Person at the address listed above.

Via Zoom: Members of the public may participate in this meeting virtually via computer or smart device. To Join the Zoom Meeting, copy and paste the link into your browser:

<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/92329693521?pwd=vi52WPz8baA3EL2FbIp05wM0awv5fv.1>

Meeting ID: 923 2969 3521 Password: 901221

To Participate via phone, you can call the number below and enter the webinar ID number and password when prompted: Phone Number: (669) 219 2599 Meeting ID: 923 2969 3521 Password: 901221

Public Comments: The following options are available to any member of the public participating virtually or in person who wishes to make any comments to the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

Before the Meeting via Email: Written comments can be emailed by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Committee meeting, to WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov. Please indicate the Committee name, meeting date and agenda number in the subject. Comments received by the deadline will be distributed to the Committee and placed in the record.

During the Meeting via Oral Comments: When the Chair calls for public comment, attendees can queue to speak by raising their hand in person. On the Zoom application, click the "Raise Hand" button. On the phone, or press *9 on the phone. The Secretary to the Board Committee will call speaker names and unmute speaker mics. You will have 3 minutes to provide your comments.

Please note, the time limit for commenters who have already submitted something in writing may be shortened.

PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE PRESENT IN PERSON, ZOOM ACCESS IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND NOT LEGALLY REQUIRED. IF THE ZOOM FEED IS LOST, THE MEETING MAY PAUSE BRIEFLY BUT CAN CONTINUE AT THE CHAIRPERSON'S DISCRETION

Individuals with disabilities who desire to request a reasonable accommodation or modification to observe or participate in the meeting may make such request by sending an email to WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov. The request should be made no later than noon on Tuesday prior to the Committee meeting in order to provide time for the Agency to address the request.

The Chair and/or Secretary may set reasonable rules as needed to conduct the meeting in an orderly manner

Cómo participar en esta reunión: En persona: En la dirección indicada anteriormente.

De forma remota vía Zoom: Los miembros del público pueden participar en esta reunión de manera virtual a través de una computadora o dispositivo inteligente. Para unirse a la reunión de Zoom, copie y pegue el siguiente enlace en su navegador: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/92329693521?pwd=vi52WPz8baA3EL2FbIp05wM0awv5fv.1>

ID de la reunión: 923 2969 3521 Contraseña: 901221

Para participar por teléfono: Puede llamar al número que aparece a continuación e ingresar el ID de la reunión y la contraseña cuando se le solicite:

Número de teléfono: (669) 219 2599 ID de la reunión: 923 2969 3521 Contraseña: 901221

Comentarios del público: Las siguientes opciones están disponibles para cualquier miembro del público que participe de forma virtual o en persona y desee hacer comentarios ante el Comité Asesor de Recursos Hídricos.

Antes de la reunión por correo electrónico: Los comentarios escritos pueden enviarse por correo electrónico hasta las 5:00 p. m. del martes previo a la reunión del Comité a:

WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov

Por favor, indique el nombre del Comité, la fecha de la reunión y el número del punto de la agenda en el asunto del correo electrónico. Los comentarios recibidos antes de la fecha límite serán distribuidos al Comité y archivados como parte del registro oficial.

Durante la reunión mediante comentarios orales: Cuando el Presidente solicite comentarios del público, los asistentes pueden hacer fila para hablar levantando la mano en persona. En la aplicación de Zoom, haga clic en el botón "Levantar la mano". Por teléfono, presione *9.

El/la Secretario/a del Comité llamará a los oradores por nombre y activará sus micrófonos. Cada persona tendrá 3 minutos para presentar sus comentarios. Tenga en cuenta que el tiempo permitido para quienes ya hayan presentado comentarios por escrito puede ser reducido.

POR FAVOR TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, EL ACCESO POR ZOOM ES SOLO POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES LEGALMENTE REQUERIDO. SI SE PIERDE LA SEÑAL DE ZOOM, LA REUNIÓN PUEDE PAUSARSE BREVE PERO PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.

Las personas con discapacidades que deseen solicitar una adaptación o modificación razonable para

observar o participar en la reunión pueden hacerlo enviando un correo electrónico a:
WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov

La solicitud debe realizarse a más tardar al mediodía del martes previo a la reunión del Comité, para permitir que la Agencia tenga tiempo de atender la solicitud.

El Presidente y/o el Secretario podrán establecer reglas razonables según sea necesario para conducir la reunión de manera ordenada.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: Ken Ekelund, Mark Gonzalez, Matt Simis, Deidre Sullivan

Public Comment

None.

Committee Member Comments

None.

Consent Calendar

Upon the motion made by Matt Simis, seconded by Mark Gonzalez the Consent Calendar of the Planning Committee was approved.

Ayes: Ken Ekelund, Mark Gonzalez, Matt Simis, Deidre Sullivan

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

1. Approve the Action Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on February 4, 2026.

Attachments: [Draft Planning Minutes: February 4, 2026](#)

Scheduled Items

2. Receive an update on staff's participation in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Advisory Committee. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)

Committee Member Comments: Ken Ekelund, Mark Gonzalez, Matt Simis

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: Christopher Bunn

3. Receive the December 2025 Strategic Plan Update Workshop Report. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)

Attachments: [Strategic Plan Dec 2025 Workshop Report](#)

Committee Member Comments: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Staff Reports

4. Update on the development of a new Grazing Lease Bid Cycle.
(Staff Presenting: Jason Demers)

Committee Member Comments: Ken Ekelund

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

5. Update on Town Creek Association Request to Construct a Boat Ramp on Agency Property.
(Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian)

Attachments: [MEMO to Planning Committee RE WRA Response to Town Creek Request February 18, 2026, Letter to Town Creek Association October 1, 2025, Town Creek Proposal](#)

Committee Member Comments: Mark Gonzalez, Ken Ekelund

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

6. Update on Tri Counties Club Request for a Boat Dock Compliance Framework. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian)

Attachments: [MEMO to Planning Committee RE WRA Response to Tri Counties Club Request for a Boat Dock Compliance Framework February 23, 2026, Agency Response to Tri Counties Club December Request December 19, 2025, Tri Counties Club Request for a Boat Dock Compliance Framework October 2025 Boat Dock Survey Data Collection and Findings Report](#)

Committee Member Comments: None

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

7. Review of Board of Directors Roles and Responsibilities. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian)

Attachments: [MEMO to Planning Committee RE Review of the Agency's Board of Directors Roles & Responsibilities](#)
[September 24, 2025, Considerations for modernizing the Agency's BOD governance guidance](#)
[January 29, 2025, WRA Governing Bodies Roles and Responsibilities Summary](#)

Committee Member Comments: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: Bill Lipe

8. Update on the Request for Proposals process for the Strategic Plan Update Consultant. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)

Committee Member Comments: Ken Ekelund, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Calendar

9. Set next meeting date and discuss further agenda items.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.



County of Monterey

Item No.2

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-018

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Consider recommending that the Board of Directors authorize One Water Econ, LLP's Dam Materiality General Benefits Study. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Amy Woodrow)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Planning Committee recommend that the Board of Directors authorize One Water Econ, LLP's Dam Materiality General Benefits Study.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("Agency") is working on multiple efforts to scope studies to evaluate the economic benefits of Nacimiento and San Antonio dams and dam operations to help inform future cost allocation and recovery proposals. One of these efforts is the proposed Dam Materiality General Benefits Study ("Study") that will be conducted by One Water Econ, LLP ("One Water Econ").

As described in the draft scope, One Water Econ will provide a forward-looking, comprehensive assessment of the economic impacts and public benefits generated by Agency infrastructure (Attachment 1). The work will focus on how identified benefits accrue broadly to the public to inform the allocation and recovery of costs across beneficiaries. Throughout the Study, One Water Econ will coordinate with other consultants engaged by the Agency and/or Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and staff from the County of Monterey Agricultural Commissioner's Office, to ensure mutual understanding and alignment of data input and analysis.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

This agreement is financed by the fund balance of Fund 111. The total amount needed for this agreement in the current fiscal year is estimated at \$67,000 and is included in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Sufficient appropriations and estimated revenues in Fund 111 are included in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. The remainder of the Study costs (approximately \$112,000) would be needed in FY 2026-2027.

Prepared by: Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Draft Dam Materiality General Benefits Study scope



County of Monterey

Item No.2

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-018

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Consider recommending that the Board of Directors authorize One Water Econ, LLP's Dam Materiality General Benefits Study. (Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Amy Woodrow)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Planning Committee recommend that the Board of Directors authorize One Water Econ, LLP's Dam Materiality General Benefits Study.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("Agency") is working on multiple efforts to scope studies to evaluate the economic benefits of Nacimiento and San Antonio dams and dam operations to help inform future cost allocation and recovery proposals. One of these efforts is the proposed Dam Materiality General Benefits Study ("Study") that will be conducted by One Water Econ, LLP ("One Water Econ").

As described in the draft scope, One Water Econ will provide a forward-looking, comprehensive assessment of the economic impacts and public benefits generated by Agency infrastructure (Attachment 1). The work will focus on how identified benefits accrue broadly to the public to inform the allocation and recovery of costs across beneficiaries. Throughout the Study, One Water Econ will coordinate with other consultants engaged by the Agency and/or Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and staff from the County of Monterey Agricultural Commissioner's Office, to ensure mutual understanding and alignment of data input and analysis.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

This agreement is financed by the fund balance of Fund 111. The total amount needed for this agreement in the current fiscal year is estimated at \$67,000 and is included in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Sufficient appropriations and estimated revenues in Fund 111 are included in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. The remainder of the Study costs (approximately \$112,000) would be needed in FY 2026-2027.

Prepared by: Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Draft Dam Materiality General Benefits Study scope

Memorandum

To: Amy Woodrow, Monterey County Water Resources Agency
From: Claire Sheridan and Janet Clements, One Water Econ
Date: March 22, 2026
Re: Economic Impacts and Ecosystem Service Benefits of MCWRA Infrastructure

Background

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) would like One Water Econ to conduct a forward-looking, comprehensive assessment of the economic impacts and public benefits generated by the water infrastructure it has developed and manages. This assessment will focus on how these benefits accrue broadly to the public, with a particular focus on the residents of Monterey County. The goals of this effort include:

- Assess current and future economic activity supported by MCWRA infrastructure.
- Value the ecosystem service and environmental benefits supported by MCWRA infrastructure.
- Inform the allocation and recovery of costs across beneficiaries.
- Ensure consistency with parallel / related analyses that have been commissioned by MCWRA and partner agencies.

This memorandum outlines One Water Econ’s scope of work for completing this assessment.

Throughout this project, as directed by the Agency, our team will continue to coordinate with team members from parallel efforts by the Salinas Valey Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA)/ERA Economics and MCWRA/Vega Economics to ensure mutual understanding, align data inputs and analyses, and coordinate recommendations related to cost allocation and recovery mechanisms.

Scope of Work

MCWRA’s infrastructure provides essential water supply reliability for a predominantly agricultural region. Reliable water supplies during dry periods sustain agricultural growers, ranchers, farm and ranch workers, and the broader local economy. In addition, MCWRA’s infrastructure and the water resources it manages provide a range of public benefits, including habitat provision, recreation, power generation, and other ecosystem services.

The Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs, along with the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) and the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SDRF), support surface water flows and ground water recharge; this analysis will not differentiate the benefits of water by source.

Task 1: Project Management

Project management activities will ensure clear communication, efficient coordination, and timely delivery of all work products. Key tasks include:

- Virtual kick-off meeting to review this scope of work and ensure all parties are aligned with the approach, timeline, and data needs.

- Virtual participation in two (2) meetings per month with the MCWRA project manager to communicate progress, submit data requests, and update timelines, assuming a total of 16 project meetings (April – December, 2026). One Water Econ staff will coordinate scheduling of meetings, providing agendas and notes.
- Virtual participation in up to two (2) public meetings virtually, with the possibility of in-person attendance as needed. The attached budget includes one (1) in-person meeting attendance for two (2) One Water Econ personnel.
- Prepare and submit monthly invoices and progress reports.

Task 2: Economic Impacts of MCWRA Infrastructure

Under Task 2, One Water Econ will quantify the economic activity supported by MCWRA’s management of local water resources and infrastructure. This task focuses on economic impacts—the direct, indirect, and induced economic activity associated with enhanced agricultural production and other water-dependent activities. In contrast, Task 3 evaluates economic benefits, including ecosystem services and non-market values.

Task 2.1 Agricultural Impacts

Reliable water supplies supported by MCWRA infrastructure allow farmers to avoid crop losses during drought, maintain or improve crop quality and yields, and in some cases extend the growing season. Agriculture, in turn, drives employment, tax revenues, food-processing activity, and broader economic ripple effects across Monterey County and the region. Without reliable water, irrigated agriculture would produce less during dry years, and growers would likely shift to lower-value crops or fallow land during extended drought.

To quantify these impacts, One Water Econ will evaluate how reduced water availability affects crop yields and grower behavior across crop types. The ongoing Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) analysis (led by ERA Economics) provides a strong foundation for understanding farm-level responses to water scarcity. We will coordinate closely with the SVBGSA team to streamline data gathering, avoid duplication, and ensure alignment of data inputs and assumptions.

In addition, under this task our team will:

- Review relevant literature, such as the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner’s November 2025 report, *Economic Contributions of Monterey County Agriculture*, which provides a strong, sector-wide baseline.
- Conduct interviews with five to seven agricultural growers and other knowledgeable experts identified by MCWRA staff to understand how reduced water supply affects production levels, crop quality, and growing season.
- Compile spatial data and reports on irrigated agriculture and rangeland and use historical weather data and climate forecasts to estimate how often MCWRA infrastructure will likely prevent reductions (or changes) in irrigated crop production in future years.

All data/analyses will be organized by DWR Bulletin 118 subbasins to reflect current management units. Modeling results from the SVBGSA analysis will inform assumptions about grower responses to reduced water availability and help establish the “no infrastructure” scenario. One Water Econ will apply crop-specific assumptions about

irrigator behavior under different water conditions and scale these assumptions based on irrigated acreage in Monterey County. MCWRA and key stakeholders will review and refine assumptions before economic modeling begins.

To quantify the economic impacts of enhanced water supply reliability for agriculture, we will use IMPLAN for Monterey County and surrounding counties. IMPLAN is an industry-standard input-output model that allows us to estimate the “ripple effects” (i.e., indirect and induced impacts) of an economic event within a local economy. In this case, we will use IMPLAN to estimate how reduced agricultural production under a “no MCWRA management alternative” would affect local economic output, employment, labor income, spending, and tax revenues. In addition to capturing impacts to sectors that supply the agricultural industry, IMPLAN recently introduced a forward linkages model, allowing us to better capture impacts on local industries that rely on Monterey County agricultural products. IMPLAN is a county level model; One Water Econ will tailor the model, as necessary, to match agricultural production within the Salinas Valley specifically.

Task 2.2 Water Dependent Industries Impacts

A recent analysis by SVBGSA indicates that domestic, municipal, commercial, and industrial sectors also face challenges from declining groundwater levels and seawater intrusion. Under this subtask, we will extend the water supply reliability analysis beyond agriculture to evaluate how other economic sectors dependent on reliable water supply respond to changes in water availability and/or quality.

This work will include:

- Reviewing relevant literature to understand how reduced water availability affects business operations, employment, and investment decisions across Monterey County.
- Quantifying the economic output, jobs, and tax revenues MCWRA infrastructure facilitates by providing clean and reliable water supplies.

One Water Econ has conducted similar analyses at the national and local levels, using data inputs from IMPLAN as well as relevant literature on the impacts of water supply disruptions to water dependent industries. We will adapt these methods to Monterey County’s industrial and commercial landscape to estimate the economic ripple effects of water reliability across non-agricultural sectors.

Task 2.3 Recreation Impacts

Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs generate significant economic activity by supporting recreation. Visitors pay entry fees, stay in local hotels, dine in restaurants, purchase fuel, and buy recreational equipment. Data collected for the 2024 Historical Benefits Analysis (HBA) Report—including visitation, visitor expenditures, and activity types—can be used as inputs to IMPLAN to estimate the economic impacts of lake-based recreation in Monterey County, including output, jobs, wages, and tax revenues generated annually.

This valuation focuses on economic activity and differs from the consumer welfare analysis described in Task 3.3, which will estimate recreational benefits from a broader public-value perspective.

Task 3: Ecosystem Services and Environmental Benefits associated with MCWRA Infrastructure/Management

The purpose of Task 3 is to quantify and describe the ecosystem service and environmental benefits supported by MCWRA infrastructure. These benefits extend beyond direct economic activity (described under Task 2) and include the public value of agricultural landscapes, habitat and fisheries, recreation, and hydropower-related improvements.

Task 3.1: Benefits of Irrigated Agriculture and Rangeland

MCWRA infrastructure supports a stable and productive agricultural economy, and the agricultural landscapes it sustains provide a wide range of public benefits. Several agricultural communities in California have quantified the values of agricultural conservation easements, such as the Sonoma County Ag + Open Space [Healthy Lands & Health Economies](#) report; similar reports exist for agricultural lands in Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Counties. Our team will conduct a similar analysis, adapting methods and findings to Monterey County’s agricultural landscape.

Interviews with agricultural growers and other experts in Task 2 will inform the range of benefits provided by MCWRA infrastructure. To supplement this information, our team will conduct three to five additional interviews with local and state government entities that have evaluated agricultural benefits, such as the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s (CDFA’s) Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation (OEFI), and the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County. These interviews will help identify the full suite of potential benefits associated with irrigated farmland and pasture and support the selection of at least five priority benefits for quantitative evaluation. Benefits not amenable to quantification will be described qualitatively.

Agriculture-related benefits that may be evaluated include:

- **Wildlife habitat** – farmland and pasture can provide habitat for resident and transient wildlife (e.g. migratory birds)
- **Recreation and cultural** – farmland can provide a scenic backdrop and/or specific places for wildlife viewing, nature walks, outdoor recreation, entertainment, and educational experiences
- **Pollinator support** – farmland can provide habitat for pollinators that can help pollinate wild and cultivated plants
- **Nutrient cycling** – farmland can provide buffers that can help sequester and cycle nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus
- **Carbon storage** – farmland can store carbon over time, including when cultivated with specific conservation practices that encourage carbon storage
- **Wildfire protection** – agricultural areas can help protect people and property from wildfires
- **Soil Structure, Stability and Fertility** – maintaining healthy soils can reduce erosion, prevent landslides, suppress pathogens, sequester carbon, and purify water

Results from a high-level screening analysis will be presented to MCWRA during a regularly scheduled management call to prioritize and establish appropriate and desired benefits to be valued. The selected benefits will be quantified using willingness-to-pay studies, avoided cost approaches, and standard benefit transfer methods. Where relevant, values will be estimated under different water-availability conditions.

Task 3.2: Benefits Biodiversity and Habitat from Fish Flows

Evaluating the habitat and fisheries benefits of MCWRA infrastructure requires a distinct analytical approach. Rather than comparing conditions with and without infrastructure, we will compare the value of habitat created under the fish-flow prescription instituted in 2010 to the habitat that would have been lost without these releases.

Our team has previously researched the value of fish flows for steelhead and salmon in California and will apply those findings to the Salinas Valley using a benefits transfer approach, as relevant. We also review willingness-to-pay/non-market valuation studies related to fish flows, fish habitat, and riverine preservation in this region. These studies will help estimate the value that residents place on living in a region that supports functioning fish habitat and healthy river ecosystems.

Task 3.3: Benefits of Recreation at Nacimiento and Antonio Reservoirs

Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio provide significant recreational value to residents of Monterey County and surrounding communities. Activities such as camping, boating, fishing, hiking, swimming, and picnicking generate benefits to participants that exceed park entry fees.

For the 2024 HBA Report, One Water Econ evaluated the historical recreational benefits at both reservoirs. This analysis can be readily updated using current visitation data, applying the previous valuation framework to estimate the benefits generated by maintaining recreational amenities. To ground the analysis in present-day conditions, we will interview at least one staff member from the Monterey County Parks Department to understand current visitation patterns.

This analysis will estimate an average annual benefit value, and project ranges of possible future values to support long-term planning and cost-allocation discussions.

Task 3.4: Hydropower generation and associated improvements to air quality

Hydropower generated at Nacimiento Dam provides a clean and inexpensive source of energy for the Bay Area Regional Transit System. By avoiding the cost of traditional gas or coal powered energy, the generation of hydropower improves air quality and reduces the costs associated with pollutant-related health outcomes. One Water Econ valued historical power generation and the benefits of avoided emissions for the 2024 HBA Report; we can estimate these benefits into the future using recent energy pricing data and projected increases. The analysis will report average annual benefit values to align with the other analyses, and project these annual benefit values forward to support long-term planning and cost-allocation discussions.

Task 4: Cross Analysis Collaboration - Translating Benefits to Cost Recovery Allocation

MCWRA faces rising costs as its dam infrastructure ages and requires increasingly expensive maintenance. A cost-allocation framework will provide a systematic method for distributing a portion of these costs across beneficiary groups based on the benefits they receive. Findings from the economic impact and benefits analyses (Tasks 2 and 3) will inform the identification and characterization of these beneficiaries.

Vega Economics is leading the cost allocation/rate analysis for MCWRA. As directed by MCWRA, we will work with Vega and other consultants conducting parallel efforts to understand the results of their studies and determine what portion of those costs could be recovered from external sources. Our team will participate in up to five (5) meetings with other consulting teams to coordinate closely, ensuring our assumptions and recommendations

align. If our frameworks diverge in assumptions or findings, we will clearly document the basis for those differences.

Task 5: Report & Presentations

For the final task, One Water Econ will prepare a comprehensive report describing the methods and results of the analyses conducted in Tasks 2 and 3, along with recommendations developed under Task 4. The draft report will include:

- An executive summary
- Figures and tables presenting estimates of economic impacts and monetized benefit values
- A discussion of implications for cost-recovery and allocation, developed in collaboration with other consulting teams

MCWRA staff will have the opportunity to review the draft report and provide feedback. Our team will also prepare a presentation that MCWRA can use to communicate study findings to stakeholders and decision-makers. Based on feedback from MCWRA, other consulting teams, and relevant stakeholders, One Water Econ will revise the draft and submit a final report

Schedule and Budget

Figure 1 presents the anticipated timeline for each project task, including key deliverables and coordination meetings, with the final report scheduled for completion by the end of 2026. One Water Econ proposes delivering a full draft analysis and report to MCWRA in late October, with time for MCWRA staff and other stakeholders to review the draft in late October and early November. This allows our team time to revise the report based on comments received.

The timing of public meetings and any desired in-person meetings will be determined in consultation with MCWRA. We will work closely with the Agency to adjust the schedule as needed to align with project priorities and the timelines of related consulting efforts.

Task	2026												
	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec				
Task 1. Project Management	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Task 2. Economic Impacts													
Task 3. Economic Benefits													
Task 4. Collaboration/Cos Allocation													
Task 5: Reporting / Final Deliverables										★			★

★ Meetings ★ Interim/Draft Deliverables ★ Final Deliverables

Table 1 presents our proposed budget based on our understanding of project expectations and deliverables. We are happy to adjust the budget and associated level of effort to best meet MCWRA’s needs.

Table 1. Proposed Budget

Task	Description	Clements	Sheridan	Associate	Henderson	Subtotal Hours	Subtotal Cost
		\$290	\$200	\$140	\$242		
1	Project Management					82	\$18,284
	Kick Off	2	4	0	2	8	\$1,864
	Meetings with MCWRA	8	16	0	8	32	\$7,456
	Internal meetings & admin	6	16	8	12	42	\$8,964
2	Economic Impacts					297	\$55,134
2.1	Data Gathering & Interviews	0	32	36	7	75	\$13,134
2.2	Agricultural Impacts	20	20	60	10	110	\$20,620
2.3	Water Dependent Industries	10	10	30	0	50	\$9,100
2.4	Recreation	4	10	20	0	34	\$5,960
	Quality Assurance/Control	8	20	0	0	28	\$6,320
	Benefits Generated by MCWRA						
3	Infrastructure					242	\$52,180
3.1	Agriculture Lands	2	20	40	90	152	\$31,960
3.2	Fisheries	0	20	0	5	25	\$5,210
3.3	Recreation	0	10	0	0	10	\$2,000
3.4	Hydropower	0	10	0	5	15	\$3,210
	Quality Assurance/Control	20	20	0	0	40	\$9,800
4	Cross Analysis Collaboration					35	\$8,110
	Working sessions	5	10	0	5	20	\$4,660
	Develop recommendations	5	10	0	0	15	\$3,450
5	Report and Presentation					150	\$33,252
	Draft Report	20	40	20	40	120	\$26,280
	Presentation	4	6	0	2	12	\$2,844
	Final Report	4	10	0	4	18	\$4,128
	Labor Total	118	284	214	190	806	\$166,960
	Optional Travel Expenses						\$2,000
	IMPLAN Purchase						\$10,000
	Proposed Total Budget						\$178,960



County of Monterey

Item No.3

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-019

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize Flow West's Flood Reduction Benefits Study.
(Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Jason Demers)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Planning Committee:

Consider recommending that the Board of Directors approve an Agreement for Services with FlowWest in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to perform a study of flood reduction benefits related to the presence of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs began operation in 1957 and 1967, respectively, serving as multi-benefit facilities providing flood reduction, water storage, and recreational benefits. The dams were built in part to address conditions of seawater intrusion and groundwater overdraft that were already prevalent in the 1940s and documented in the California Department of Public Works, Division of Water Resources, *Bulletin No. 52-B* which was published in 1946. The dams and their reservoirs have served the residents of Monterey County well since their construction, providing winter flood reduction, summer groundwater recharge, and recreational opportunities for locals and tourists alike. Since the construction of the Salinas Valley Water Project and the start up of the Salinas River Diversion Facility in 2010, growers in the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) distribution area have benefitted from re-diversion of reservoir water to supplement recycled water and ground water sources.

Many years after the construction of the dams, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) commissioned a consulting team led by Montgomery Watson to further study the benefits of the dams. The resulting *Salinas Valley Historical Benefits Analysis* (HBA) was completed in 1998. The HBA has become one of the foundational documents that helped determine how the Agency funds the ongoing operations and maintenance of the dams.

One of the primary benefits described in the HBA is flood control. The HBA addresses two categories of flood control benefits; prevention of agricultural damages, including reduction in damages from erosion, and prevention of damages to buildings and structures. The HBA does not address many of the other flood reduction benefits that are created by the long-term presence and reliability of the dams. Agriculture (primarily in the Salinas Valley) and tourism (primarily on the coast) are multi-billion dollar industries that drive the economy of Monterey County and benefit from the flood

reduction provided by the dams. Those benefits include but are not limited to the reduction of 100-year flood flows, protection for major transportation corridors and public infrastructure, and flood risk reduction that allows formerly flood prone areas to now accommodate agriculture, industry, and housing.

The Agency is proposing to work with consultant, FlowWest, to perform a pre and post-dam flood analysis. The analysis will help us better understand the extent of the broader county wide flood reduction benefits provided by the dams. FlowWest will research existing studies and modeling work to inform the development of pre-dam hydrology, model pre and post-dam flow scenarios, and perform statistical analysis on the results. To the extent possible, FlowWest will use existing modeling and analysis tools such as a recently updated HEC-RAS model of the Salinas River and a flood inundation map viewer that is currently under development with the Agency. Use of existing tools will reduce the cost and effort required to perform this analysis. The resulting data will be used to support a benefits assessment analysis that will consider the economic value of the flood reduction benefits. The combined analysis will support the Agency's ongoing evaluation of existing funding sources and goal of identifying future funding sources to support stable long-term operations and maintenance of the dams.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

This analysis will be funded from Agency Fund 111 with partial funding identified in the approved FY26 budget. The remaining funding is identified in the upcoming FY27 budget.

Prepared by: Jason Demers, Senior Water Resources Engineer, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Flow West's Scope of Work



County of Monterey

Item No.3

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-019

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Recommend that the Board of Directors authorize Flow West's Flood Reduction Benefits Study.
(Staff Presenting: Ara Azhderian and Jason Demers)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Planning Committee:

Consider recommending that the Board of Directors approve an Agreement for Services with FlowWest in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to perform a study of flood reduction benefits related to the presence of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs began operation in 1957 and 1967, respectively, serving as multi-benefit facilities providing flood reduction, water storage, and recreational benefits. The dams were built in part to address conditions of seawater intrusion and groundwater overdraft that were already prevalent in the 1940s and documented in the California Department of Public Works, Division of Water Resources, *Bulletin No. 52-B* which was published in 1946. The dams and their reservoirs have served the residents of Monterey County well since their construction, providing winter flood reduction, summer groundwater recharge, and recreational opportunities for locals and tourists alike. Since the construction of the Salinas Valley Water Project and the start up of the Salinas River Diversion Facility in 2010, growers in the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) distribution area have benefitted from re-diversion of reservoir water to supplement recycled water and ground water sources.

Many years after the construction of the dams, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) commissioned a consulting team led by Montgomery Watson to further study the benefits of the dams. The resulting *Salinas Valley Historical Benefits Analysis* (HBA) was completed in 1998. The HBA has become one of the foundational documents that helped determine how the Agency funds the ongoing operations and maintenance of the dams.

One of the primary benefits described in the HBA is flood control. The HBA addresses two categories of flood control benefits; prevention of agricultural damages, including reduction in damages from erosion, and prevention of damages to buildings and structures. The HBA does not address many of the other flood reduction benefits that are created by the long-term presence and reliability of the dams. Agriculture (primarily in the Salinas Valley) and tourism (primarily on the coast) are multi-billion dollar industries that drive the economy of Monterey County and benefit from the flood

reduction provided by the dams. Those benefits include but are not limited to the reduction of 100-year flood flows, protection for major transportation corridors and public infrastructure, and flood risk reduction that allows formerly flood prone areas to now accommodate agriculture, industry, and housing.

The Agency is proposing to work with consultant, FlowWest, to perform a pre and post-dam flood analysis. The analysis will help us better understand the extent of the broader county wide flood reduction benefits provided by the dams. FlowWest will research existing studies and modeling work to inform the development of pre-dam hydrology, model pre and post-dam flow scenarios, and perform statistical analysis on the results. To the extent possible, FlowWest will use existing modeling and analysis tools such as a recently updated HEC-RAS model of the Salinas River and a flood inundation map viewer that is currently under development with the Agency. Use of existing tools will reduce the cost and effort required to perform this analysis. The resulting data will be used to support a benefits assessment analysis that will consider the economic value of the flood reduction benefits. The combined analysis will support the Agency's ongoing evaluation of existing funding sources and goal of identifying future funding sources to support stable long-term operations and maintenance of the dams.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

This analysis will be funded from Agency Fund 111 with partial funding identified in the approved FY26 budget. The remaining funding is identified in the upcoming FY27 budget.

Prepared by: Jason Demers, Senior Water Resources Engineer, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Flow West's Scope of Work

SCOPE OF WORK – MCWRA FLOOD REDUCTION BENEFITS ANALYSIS

This scope of work document outlines proposed activities FlowWest will perform on behalf of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) to advance an assessment of benefits of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams to Monterey County.

TASK 1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

FlowWest will continue to support ongoing planning processes by attending meetings with MCWRA.

Task 1.1 General PM

FlowWest will carry out general tasks to manage progress of the project.

Task 1.2 Meeting Attendance

FlowWest will attend regular check-in meetings as needed, on approximately a monthly or bi-weekly basis.

TASK 2: HISTORICAL DOCUMENT AND METHODS REVIEW

FlowWest will review documentation provided by MCWRA, including historic benefits analysis and related sources.

Task 2.1 Review HBA documentation provided by MCWRA

FlowWest will review all previous HBA reports and documentation provided by MCWRA, particularly hydrologic methods. Flow West will research historic gage data to prepare for hydraulic and hydrologic modeling and analysis.

TASK 3: HYDROLOGIC & HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

FlowWest will take the following steps outlined in Tasks 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 to develop hydrology for our model based on a pre-dam scenario before Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams were constructed, model the “pre-dam” scenario, and perform a statistical analysis comparing the “pre-dam” scenario with a “post-dam” scenario.

Task 3.1 Identify/develop pre-dam hydrology

FlowWest will identify and develop hydrology for a pre-dam scenario for up to 3 simulations, including 100-year and 10-year events. Flow West will also look at any flows of interest that have historically resulted in levee breaches in Salinas Valley.

Task 3.2 Modeling pre-dam conditions

FlowWest will perform hydraulic modeling for the pre-dam scenarios developed in Task 3.1.

Task 3.3 Statistical analysis of pre- vs. post-dam scenarios

FlowWest will review the analysis performed in the HBA update, and perform a similar statistical assessment using the results from Tasks 3.1 and 3.2. The statistical analyses will determine how much more frequently damaging floods would have occurred if not for construction of the two dams.

Task 3 Deliverables:

- Map outputs of hydraulic model results
- Technical Memorandum summarizing conclusions from pre- and post-dam scenario statistical analysis

TASK 4: BENEFITS ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS

FlowWest will work with MCWRA and any other experts retained in assessing the benefits of the dams. Details of activities under this task are yet to be determined after completion of Tasks 2 and 3, but could include quantification of the secondary benefits of dam implementation, such as benefits to infrastructure and agriculture.

Task 4 Deliverables:

- Technical Memorandum summarizing benefits analysis results

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Budget Summary for the MCWRA Dam Benefit Assessment Project

Task Description		Total Cost
1	Task 1	\$ 5,616
2	Task 2	\$ 10,476
3	Task 3	\$ 32,064
4	Task 4	\$ 10,568
	Direct Costs	\$ 600
TOTAL		\$ 59,324



County of Monterey

Item No.4

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-020

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Overview of the Development of a Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum.
(Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

In April 2024, Montgomery & Associates prepared the Deep Aquifers Study (Study) for the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and funding partners. The Study defined the Deep Aquifers and offered science-based guiding principles for groundwater users and agencies, focused on preventing further degradation of the Deep Aquifers and raising groundwater elevations to reduce risks of seawater intrusion and land subsidence. In the summer and fall of 2024, the Study was presented to the Boards of Directors of the SVBGSA, Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MCWDGSA), and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), as well as to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

Following publication and presentation of the Study, staff from the County of Monterey Health Department, MCWDGSA, MCWRA, and SVBGSA participated in a Deep Aquifers Working Group (Working Group) to collaborate on development of interim local protective management actions and potential long-term management actions, strengthen monitoring coordination, and recommend pathways for operationalizing management actions within existing statutory authorities.

The Working Group is finalizing a Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum (DA Memo), which is intended to supplement the Study and build upon recommendations in reports from MCWRA released in 2017 and 2020, in addition to the Study's guidance. The purpose of the DA Memo is to create a recommended structure for managing the Deep Aquifers and to identify actions or projects that could be deployed to sustainably manage them.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County of Monterey Health Department, Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

FINANCING:

Funding for MCWRA staff participation in the Working Group was financed by annexation funds in Fund 111, for which sufficient appropriations were available in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Funding for future monitoring activities that may result from actions described in the DA Memo may be associated with the Groundwater Monitoring Program in Fund 111, but such activities have not yet been identified.

Prepared by: Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860



County of Monterey

Item No.4

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-020

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Overview of the Development of a Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum.
(Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

In April 2024, Montgomery & Associates prepared the Deep Aquifers Study (Study) for the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and funding partners. The Study defined the Deep Aquifers and offered science-based guiding principles for groundwater users and agencies, focused on preventing further degradation of the Deep Aquifers and raising groundwater elevations to reduce risks of seawater intrusion and land subsidence. In the summer and fall of 2024, the Study was presented to the Boards of Directors of the SVBGSA, Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MCWDGSA), and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), as well as to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

Following publication and presentation of the Study, staff from the County of Monterey Health Department, MCWDGSA, MCWRA, and SVBGSA participated in a Deep Aquifers Working Group (Working Group) to collaborate on development of interim local protective management actions and potential long-term management actions, strengthen monitoring coordination, and recommend pathways for operationalizing management actions within existing statutory authorities.

The Working Group is finalizing a Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum (DA Memo), which is intended to supplement the Study and build upon recommendations in reports from MCWRA released in 2017 and 2020, in addition to the Study's guidance. The purpose of the DA Memo is to create a recommended structure for managing the Deep Aquifers and to identify actions or projects that could be deployed to sustainably manage them.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County of Monterey Health Department, Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

FINANCING:

Funding for MCWRA staff participation in the Working Group was financed by annexation funds in Fund 111, for which sufficient appropriations were available in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget. Funding for future monitoring activities that may result from actions described in the DA Memo may be associated with the Groundwater Monitoring Program in Fund 111, but such activities have not yet been identified.

Prepared by: Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860



County of Monterey

Item No.5

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-021

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Overview of Coordination on Groundwater Monitoring and Remedial Measures Plan. (Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)



County of Monterey

Item No.6

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-022

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

San Antonio Spillway Replacement Update. (Staff Presenting: Elise Harden)



County of Monterey

Item No.7

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-023

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Receive an update on staff's participation in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Advisory Committee. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)



County of Monterey

Item No.8

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-024

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/18/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Update on the Request for Proposals process for the Strategic Plan Update Consultant. (Staff Presenting: Shaunna Murray)



County of Monterey

Item No.9

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAPL 26-026

April 01, 2026

Introduced: 3/26/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA Planning Item

Set the next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.